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Message Text

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11
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 EB-11 DRC-01 /156 W
---------- 080122
R 130749Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3137
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1256

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, NATO
SUBJECT: WEU MINISTERIAL MEETING

REF: BRUSSELS 1233

SUMMARY: DUTCH OFFICIAL DESCRIBES MARCH 11 WEU MINISTERIAL MEETING IN THE HAGUE AS NONE-EVENT, AT WHICH FRENCH FAILED TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR REACTIVATING WEU'S STANDING ARMAMENTS COMMITTEE. END SUMMARY.

1. SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL, COMMENTING IT IS HARD TO FIND SUITABLE TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION AT ANNUAL WEU MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, SAID ONLY SUBSTANTIAL ITEM BEFORE MARCH 11 SESSION WAS FRENCH PRO-
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POSAL TO "REVIVE" WEU ARMAMENTS COOPERATION. OFFICIAL REMARKED

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THAT "REVIVE" PERHAPS POOR WORD SINCE SUCH COOPERATION WAS NEVER VERY MUCH ALIVE TO BEGIN WITH.

2. OFFICIAL SAID GON HAD STATED ITS PREFERENCE FOR ARMAMENTS COOPERATION UNDER EUROGROUP, TIED TO NATO, WITH WIDER MEMBERSHIP THIS PROVIDES IN COMPARISON WITH WEU. HE SAID THIS POSITION HAD BEEN SUPPORTED BY OTHERS, WITH ONLY ITALIANS SHOWING SOME SYMPATHY FOR FRENCH PROPOSAL. FRENCH HAD CONTENDED IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM POLITICALLY TO COOPERATE IN EUROGROUP BECAUSE OF NATO LINK. (OFFICIAL WONDERED HOW THIS POSITION SQUARES WITH FACT THAT FRENCH PARTICIPATE IN NATO'S CNAD.) DECISION OF MEETING WAS TO REFER FRENCH PROPOSAL BACK TO WEU'S PERMANENT COUNCIL IN LONDON FOR FURTHER STUDY.

3. OFFICIAL SAID UNDER SUBJECT OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS WEST GERMAN REP MADE PRESENTATION REGARDING NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN FRG AND EE'S.

4. IN ADDITION TO FONMIN VAN DER STOEL, WHO HOSTED MEETING, ONLY OTHER MINISTER PRESENT WAS FONMIN THORN OF LUXEMBOURG, REMAINING FIVE MEMBERS BEING REPRESENTED BY STATE SECRETARIES OR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO WEU COUNCIL.
GOULD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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